



Peer Assistance Services
Start believing.

Young Adults in the Workplace: Peer Assistance Services, Inc., Project

YIW Overview:

The Young Adults in the Workplace (YIW) initiative is a multisite collaborative project with six multidisciplinary SAMHSA-funded grant teams implementing and evaluating workplace-based substance abuse prevention and early intervention programs for young workers. Young adults are at increased risk for developing chronic substance use-related problems, and few interventions are available for them, particularly in workplaces. The YIW program was designed to provide the nation's employers, unions, and organizations with empirical information about the efficacy of a diverse set of approaches to prevention and early intervention of substance abuse and comorbidity.

Industry:

Construction/manual labor

Location:

Various locations across California, Colorado, Florida, and New Mexico

Demographics:

400 to 1,000 employees ages 18 to 24

Early Findings:

- Youth and Conservation Corps are ideal places to reach at-risk young adults.
- Corps are specifically designed to provide job skills development and educational opportunities to individuals who need help to realize their career potential.
- Workplace programs need to be flexibly designed to enable effective implementation in nontraditional workplaces such as Corps.

Program Description:

- This grantee has modified a Team Awareness program for implementation with workers who participate in workforce development programs targeting hard-to-employ youth.
- The program is designed to prepare youth for future employment, while also educating them about the value of employee assistance program services and drug-free workplace programs for the employee, employer, and customers.
- The goals of the program are to reduce the culture of acceptance and prevalence of substance use/abuse in the workplace, increase wellness and quality of life, increase the desire to obtain fulfilling future employment and career advancement, and improve the ability to seek help with emotional or substance abuse problems.



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